

U.S. EPA Region 5
September 28, 1999

AR-18J

Bharat Mathur, Chief
Bureau of Air
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 19506
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9506

Dear Mr. Mathur,

Pursuant to Section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93, Subpart A), the USEPA has reviewed the Chicago ozone attainment demonstration submitted on April 30, 1998. The conformity rule spells out limited technical and administrative criteria that we must use in determining adequacy of submitted State Implementation Plan (SIP) budgets for transportation conformity purposes. We have determined that the Chicago ozone attainment demonstration does not contain adequate mobile source emission budgets.

The Chicago ozone attainment demonstration is defined in the conformity regulations as a control strategy SIP and, as such, must specify mobile source emission budgets consistent with attainment of the ozone standard in Chicago. We encourage you to work with us to define appropriate and adequate mobile source emission budgets for the Chicago ozone nonattainment area.

The USEPA opened a comment period on the SIP's adequacy by posting it to our website June 2, 1999. The web address is www.epa.gov/oms/trams/adequacy.htm. The comment period closed on July 2, 1999, and no comments were received. More information on SIPs and adequacy reviews is also available on this website. The USEPA will soon publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing this inadequacy finding. If you have questions, please feel free to call me or Patricia Morris of my staff.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Guerriero, Acting Director
Air and Radiation Division

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